



# Saguaro National Park

## Rincon Mountain District Interpretive Program Schedule March 7 - March 15, 2009



Date and Time	Program	Length	Type
<b><i>Saturday, March 7</i></b>			
	<b><i>Special Event</i></b>		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Fiesta de Saguaro	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m	
<b><i>Sunday, March 8</i></b>			
10:00 a.m.	Park History 101	2 hours	2 mile hike
2:00 p.m.	Cactus Caravan	1 hour	auto tour
4:00 p.m.	Desert Adaptations	30 minutes	garden walk
<b><i>Monday, March 9</i></b>			
10:00 a.m.	Sonoran Lifestyles	2 hours	2 mile hike
11:00 a.m.	Desert Adaptations	30 minutes	garden walk
2:00 p.m.	Desert Tales	2 hours	2 mile hike
3:00 p.m.	All Grown Up: The Saguaro Life Cycle	30 minutes	garden walk
<b><i>Tuesday, March 10</i></b>			
10:00 a.m.	Desert Discovery	2 hours	2 mile hike
11:00 a.m.	Desert Adaptations	30 minutes	garden walk
2:00 p.m.	The Desert Cures	2 hours	2 mile hike
3:00 p.m.	But it's the Dry Heat	45 minutes	garden talk
7:00 p.m.	Set in Stone – But Not in Meaning	1 hour	presentation
<b><i>Wednesday, March 11</i></b>			
9:00 a.m.	Desert Morning Hike	3 hours	4 mile hike
11:00 a.m.	Reptiles and Amphibians 101	30 minutes	patio talk
2:00 p.m.	Rock and Roll in the Park	2 hours	auto tour
3:00 p.m.	Desert Adaptations	30 minutes	garden walk
<b><i>Thursday, March 12</i></b>			
9:30 a.m.	Desert Discovery	2 hours	2 mile hike
10:00 a.m.	Prehistoric People in The Sonoran Desert	on-going	patio talk
2:00 p.m.	The Saguaro Nursery	1 hour	½ mile walk
3:00 p.m.	Gathering the Desert	30 minutes	garden walk
<b><i>Friday, March 13</i></b>			
8:00 a.m.	Desert Bird Walk	2 hours	1 mile walk
10:00 a.m.	Sonoran Lifestyles	1 ½ hours	1 mile hike
11:00 a.m.	Desert Adaptations	30 minutes	garden walk
2:00 p.m.	Surviving the Desert \	2 hours	1 mile walk
7:00 p.m.	Night Walk*	2 hours	1 mile walk
<b><i>Saturday, March 14</i></b>			
10:00 a.m.	Exploring the Desert	2 hours	1 mile walk
2:00 p.m.	Arizona's National Treasures	45 minutes	presentation
3:00 p.m.	All Grown Up: The Saguaro Life Cycle	30 minutes	garden walk
5:15 p.m.	Sunset Hike	2 hours	1 mile hike
<b><i>Sunday, March 15</i></b>			
10:00 a.m.	Desert Discovery	2 hours	2 mile hike
11:00 a.m.	Desert Adaptations	30 minutes	garden walk
2:00 p.m.	Cactus Caravan	1 hour	auto tour
3:00 p.m.	All Grown Up: The Saguaro Life Cycle	30 minutes	garden walk

Schedules are subject to change.

Check at the Visitor Center for current schedules, or call (520) 733-5153.

[www.nps.gov/sagu](http://www.nps.gov/sagu)

*\*This program requires advance registration; call visitor center to reserve a spot.*

# Program Descriptions

## **1933 to TODAY: SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK-** 2 HOUR, 1 MILE HIKE

Join Park Ranger Arlo Ogden on a historic hike down the Shantz Trail. Learn who Homer Shantz was, as well as how he helped make Saguaro National Park the great attraction it is today. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring water.

## **ALL GROWN UP:THE SAGUARO LIFE CYCLE-** 30 MINUTE, GARDEN WALK

Join a park ranger in the Cactus Garden to experience the exciting life cycle of the saguaro cactus. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **BUT IT’S THE DRY HEAT-**45 MINUTE, GARDEN WALK

Join Park Ranger Christina Heupel to learn about monsoons and super droughts. Marvel at how desert critters adapt to an ever-changing climate. This 45 minute program will be held in the cactus garden. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **CACTUS CARAVAN-** 1 HOUR AUTO TOUR

Begin your exploration of the Cactus Forest Drive with a park ranger and become familiar with some of the common cacti. A great introduction to the park! [Program is accessible.](#)

## **DESERT ADAPTATIONS-** 30 MINUTE GARDEN WALK

Join a park naturalist to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **DESERT BIRD WALK-** 2 HOUR, 1 MILE WALK

Join a naturalist as we look for the birds that call Saguaro National Park home. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring water and binoculars.

## **DESERT DISCOVERY-** 2 HOUR, 1-2 MILE WALK

Join a park naturalist on this exploration into the plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring water and binoculars.

## **DESERT MORNING HIKE-** 3 HOUR, 4 MILE HIKE

Join a park naturalist on an exploration hike into Saguaro National Park. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

## **DESERT TALES-** 2 HOUR, 2 MILE HIKE

Storytelling was an important way for the ancient desert people to teach their children about the world around them. Join a park naturalist for an easy hike through the desert with several stops to listen to some of the intriguing tales of the desert.

## **EXPLORING THE DESERT-** 2 HOUR, 1 MILE HIKE

Join Park Ranger Laura Bolyard on the Freeman Homestead Trail to learn about the plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring water.

## **GATHERING THE DESERT-** 30 MINUTE, GARDEN WALK

Join a park ranger in the Cactus Garden to learn how desert plants have been used for food, shelter, and clothing. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **NIGHT WALK \*-** 2 HOUR, 1 MILE WALK

Experience the magic of the desert night with a park ranger. Bring water and a flashlight and dress for the weather. Advance registration is required.

## **PARK HISTORY 101-** 2 HOUR, 2 MILE HIKE

A hike down memory lane. Join park ranger Arlo Ogden on a two mile, two hour hike to discover some of the unique history of Saguaro National Park. Trails and topics change weekly.

## **PREHISTORIC PEOPLES IN THE SONORAN DESERT-** ONGOING, PATIO TALK

Stop by the visitor center patio and join Volunteer Walter Coe for an exploration into the prehistory of this area; learn who lived here over a thousand years ago and what they used for food, clothing, and shelter. This is an on-going, informal presentation. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **ROCK AND ROLL IN THE PARK-** 2 HOUR, AUTO TOUR

Join Park Ranger Christina Heupel for a Geological Caravan. Learn everything from the volcanic history of the area to what type of rocks lie beneath our feet. See how geology impacts the lives of every living creature. This 2 hour drive features multiple stops along the scenic loop. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **SET IN STONE – BUT NOT IN MEANING –** 1 HOUR PRESENTATION

Join archeologist Alan Dart in the visitor center auditorium as he explores the intriguing world of petroglyphs found in the desert southwest. Advance reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (520) 733-5153. [Program is accessible.](#)

## **SONORAN LIFESTYLES-** 1 ½ HOUR, 1 MILE WALK

Join a park naturalist to explore the lifestyles of plants, animals and humans who have made a home here. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack. .

## **SUNSET HIKE –** 2 HOUR, 1 MILE HIKE

Enjoy the desert sunset with a park ranger on this 2-hour, 1 mile hike. Meet outside the visitor center at 5:1 p.m. and wear sturdy walking shoes.

## **SURVIVING THE SONORAN DESERT-** 1 ½ HOUR, 1-1 ½ MILE HIKE

Join Park Ranger Christina Heupel to learn about the 10 universal essentials to survival in the desert. Learn how Native Americans, cowboys, and other groups of people survived. Most importantly learn what 10 things you carry in your backpack can save your life. This will be an hour and a half walk through the desert. Please bring water and appropriate clothing.

## **THE DESERT CURES-** 2 HOUR, 2 MILE HIKE

Join a park naturalist for this easy hike in the desert to identify and discuss how desert plants were used in making traditional medicines.

## **THE SAGUARO NURSERY-** ½ MILE WALK, MEET AT THE VISITOR CENTER, DRIVE OWN CAR TO TRAILHEAD

Join a park ranger for a stroll through a desert garden where a new forest of giant saguaros is being born. Along the way we'll see all aspects of the saguaro life cycle, from birth to death and back to life again.